(e) by when the Committee set up or the purpose is likely to submit its report to Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARA): (a) and (b) A Committee consisting of two former Advisors of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural, Gas and two officials from Gas Authority of India Ltd. and Engineers India Ltd. was constituted to suggest, among other things, the general principles for projecting shrinkage on account of extraction of LPG and C2|C3 from natural gas and to examine the pojections made by Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. Oil India Ltd. and Gas Authority of India Ltd. in this regard.

(c) and (d) Shrinkage occurs in the normal course due to the extraction of LPG and C2|C3 from natural gas.

(e) The Committee has submitted its Report.

Proposals by Central region of ONGC for discovery of oil

256. SHRI MD. SALIM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ONGC has discovered oil in two wells viz. Ichapur-1 (oligocene sands) and 'Golf Green-1' (Eocene Limestone) in West Bengal;

(b) whether it is also a fact that 9 new locations proposed by the Central Region of ONGC to follow up the discoveries of Golf Green and Ichapur have been turned down by the management of ONGC; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARA): (a) The oil shows in these places are insignificant and non-commercial in nature.

(b) and (c) Of the 9 locations proposed, one location was for Golf Green area and 4 were for Shantipur-Badculla area which is closer to Ichapur. Of these five, one location (Shantipur-1) is already upgraded and scheduled for drilling and another 'A' Category location is already available in Badculla area. Golf Green area is being covered by 3-D seismic surveys. Future programme will be decided only after getting the results of the surveys. The remaining 4 locations were for other areas which were not agreed to because of the discouraging exploratory results in those areas or negative techno-economic or or want of additional information.

Oil Exploration by ONGC at Chandkuri and Ichapur inWest Bengal.

257. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:

SHRIMATI CHANDRAKALA PANDEY:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ONGC has discovered an oil bearing core from the Palcocene reservoir (with extractable oil) of Chandkuri 1 in Contai area of West Bengal;

(b) whether it is also fact that the ONGC management has intentionally spiked the poposal of the erstwhile Chairman P. K. Chandra to drill a subsequent well Chandkuri 2 wnere comercial oil pool is expected;

(c) whether it is also a fact that ONGC management is offering the oil bearing area of Ichapur and Chandkuri to foreign companies for oil exploration; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) The core showed patchy flourescence and positive cut but the interval produced water on testing.

(b) The second location in Chandkuri area was cancelled based on interpretation of geo-scientific of geo-scientific data.

(c) and (d) Two blocks namely BW-ON-90|1 and WB-ON.90|2 which respectively surround Ichapur and Chandkuri wells, have been offered:—

— to encurage private risk capital in the field of hydrocarbon exploration.

— to supplement the efforts of national oil companies.

— to increase the pace of exploration in the country.

— to introduce any new technology or idea which these companies might bring with them.

Expenditure incurred in Oman Gas Pipeline project

258. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the project for laying the deepest underwater natural gas pipeline from Oman to India;

(b) what is the latest position about the implementation of this project and by what time this pipeline will become operational;

(c) how much expenditure has been incurred upon this project so far; and

(d) what will be the total cost of this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARA): (a) to (d) The Oman Oil Company (OOC) has completed the pre-feasibility study or 56.6 MMSCMD of gas to India through a direct deep-sea route. No expenditure on the project has been incurred by the Government. The OOC have indicated that the investment in the project will be around US $ 5 billion.

बिहार के बांका जिले में गैस एजेंसी का खोला जाना

259. श्री जनार्दन यादव : क्या पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री यह बताने कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या बिहार के बांका जिले में एल पी जी का कोई एजेंट नहीं हैं ;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि किसी भी गैस एजेंसी के न होने के कारण बांका जिले की जनता को बहुत मुश्किलों का सामना करना पड़ता हैं ; और

(ग) क्या सरकार बांका में गैस एजेंसी आवंटित करने का विचार रखती हैं, यदि हां, तो कब तक, और यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (कैप्टन सतीश शर्मा) : (क) बांका में कोई एल पी जी डिस्ट्रीब्यूटर शिप नहीं है ;

(ख) और (ग) बांका में एल पी जी डिस्ट्रीब्यूटर शिप के लिए बिहार के तेल चयन बोर्ड के माध्यम से डिस्ट्रीब्यूटर के चयन हेतु पहले ही विज्ञापन दे दिया गया है ।

Private agencies engaged in LPG Distributorship

269. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA:

SHRI ANANT RAM JAISWAL:

(a) whether Government have authorised private agencies to provide new cooking gas connections